

Our Purpose

To examine Arizona Special Education State Board 401 rules, to propose rules that are clear, instructive, and aligned to the IDEA, and to provide guidance for implementation.

Core Team

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Advocate & SEAP Member

Angela Denning
Arizona Department of Education
Deputy Associate Superintendent

Craig Carter
Director of Special Services
Washington Elem School District

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Sarah Gamble
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Kristen Hartsuff
Director of Special Education
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Lorrane McPherson
Treasurer, AZCEC

Kimberly Peaslee,
Parent & Chairperson of CAC & SEAP
Member

Heidi Sinkovic
Director of ESS, The Leona Group

Chris Tiffany, Raising Special Kids &
SEAP Member

Our Group Norms

- We engage in active listening
- We seek to understand
- We strive for a collective impact
- We honor the communication plan
- We support working for the greater good
- Our communication is timely and accurate
- We use rubrics to evaluate our work
- We need to learn and “unlearn”
- Reflection is critical to our success

Consensus--A two tiered approach:

The Core Team will work toward unanimous consensus on every issue. If not an unanimous consensus the group will use a supermajority vote (11/13).

Rule Committee – Core Team September 12, 2014 Communiqué

Core Team Attendees: Wendy Collison, Beth Conran, Kim Peaslee, Craig Carter, Mollie Casson, Christopher Tiffany, Lorrane McPherson, Jan Cawthorne, Kristina Blackledge

ADE Support Staff: Angela Denning, William McQueary, Cindy Bolewski, Lisa Aaroe, Melissa deVries, Jin Jiu Park

Meeting Location: ADE on Osborn

You’ve got to think about big things while you’re doing small things, so that all the small things go in the right direction.

GOALS for Today: Complete the review and processing of comments from the public and finish the draft of Evaluation section. Begin work on IEP revision.

What we did:

- We reviewed our group norms and timelines and discussed need for additional meetings to get the process completed by the proposed completion date.
- We reviewed feedback from the field via the ESS Inbox, the August large group meeting, and the CASE Survivors’ Conference.
- We reviewed the Ohio rule and guidance document for special education and decided that it has much of the information we have discussed in a clear format that blends IDEA references, State law, their administrative code, and guidance.
- We discussed assessments such as OT, SL, PT, FBA, and age appropriate transition planning, which do not have an impact on eligibility determinations; thus they do not require the reopening of the MET. Clarifications and scenarios would be helpful for the guidance document.

What we learned.

- We learned that Ohio has a good format for an integrated document that outlines State statute, rule, and guidance that may provide a model for our final document.
- The eligibility category of SLD is handled separately under IDEA and it will have a separate rule.

What we accomplished.

- We finalized the Evaluation document and identified the areas needing to be clarified in rule.
- We completed the first draft of proposed rule for the Eligibility Section which addresses evaluation procedures.
- We discussed the presentation format for the Directors Institute presentation 9/22/14 at 10:00-11:10 that it will include providing our timeline (by Christopher Tiffany), guided questions, current rules, proposed rules, and the guidance document suggestions to date. We decided to start with a brief explanation of where AZ rules fit in the big picture of Federal law, guidelines and State statute. There will be a form for participants to complete and return that has 3 columns – Current Rule, Proposed Change, What I need in a guidance document. They will also have a handout with the same categories with the items that we have put under guidance. Gather input for Eligibility areas. Then break the large group into smaller groups for focused dialogue on the following questions to provide feedback:
 - What guidance and information do you need?
 - What is the marker to indicate an evaluation is completed?
 - Evaluation Plan – what does this look like to you?
 - Medical vs. School based eligibility – what are the implications and unintended consequences.
 - Eligibility – What haven’t we thought about?
 - What questions do you have that we did not address?
 - Feedback on the 10 day or 30 day response to a parent request for initial evaluation.
- Next meeting will be Friday, October 3rd from 8:00-2:00 pm.

Notes:

Rule Making Core Committee September 12, 2014 Communiqué

Next Steps:

- Complete proposed rule on the SLD eligibility rule.
- Begin work on the proposed rule for the IEP.

We Want to Hear from You!

Please send your comments to AZBoardRuleCommitteeInBox@azed.gov . We look forward to hearing from the community at large, Key Advisors and Extended Partners on our work to date and future agenda items. These documents along with key documents are posted on the Director's Corner at:

<http://www.azed.gov/special-education/category/directors-corner/> and
<http://www.azed.gov/special-education/category/rule-committee/>.